

SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING PROGRAM – 2007

Shrewsbury High School students should plan on reading many books this summer, but as a minimum, students will be asked to read at least **three** books. In addition to the one required reading book for their upcoming English classes (books listed below), students must read **two** other books: The Ultimate Gift, the book selection for all SHS students, and one book from the Summer Reading List.

Therefore, the SHS Summer Reading program breaks down follows:

1. The Ultimate Gift by Jim Stovall
2. Required English book (listed below according to grade level)
3. One book from the Summer Reading Book List

Required English Summer Reading According to Grade/Level

GRADE 12

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|------|---|
| 12AP | <u>Invisible Man</u> (Ellison)
<u>The Awakening</u> (Chopin) |
| 12H | <u>A Prayer For Owen Meany: A Novel</u> (Irving) |
| 12A | <u>Tuesdays With Morrie</u> (Albom) |

GRADE 11

- | | |
|------|---|
| 11AP | <u>Lincoln's Greatest Speech</u> (R. C. White)
<u>Can't Buy My Love</u> (J. Kilbourne)
<u>The Scarlet Letter</u> (N. Hawthorne) |
| 11H | <u>Ethan Frome</u> (E. Wharton)
<u>Billy Budd</u> (H. Melville) |
| 11A | <u>Into The Wild</u> (Krakauer) |

GRADE 10

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 10H | <u>Brave New World</u> (Huxley) |
| 10A | <u>A Gathering of Old Men</u> (Gaines) |
| 10B | <u>Tunes For Bears To Dance To</u> (Cormier) |

GRADE 9

- | | |
|----|---|
| 9H | <u>Jane Eyre</u> (Bronte) |
| 9A | <u>And Then There Were None</u> (A. Christie) |
| 9B | <u>A Day No Pigs Would Die</u> (Peck) |

SHS summer book lists were sent to the following locations:

- Borders (Shrewsbury & Marlborough)
- Barnes and Noble (Millbury & Worcester)
- Tatnuck Booksellers (Westborough)
- Waldenbooks (Greendale Mall & Solomon Pond Mall)
- Annie Book Stop (Auburn)
- Linda's Books & Gifts (Grafton)
- Shrewsbury Public Library
- You can also find new and used books at *Amazon.com*

Bookmarking and Marking up the Text

After you've read a book, what do you remember? Do you remember enough to do well on a test? Would an essay that you might write about the book contain specific, detailed and appropriate examples? What kind of contributions could you make to a graded discussion? Each of these activities could be used as a test of the books in high school and in college.

In high school, students often finish reading the book the night before it is due, and it is still fresh in their memories when they are tested on it. Review is unnecessary. In college, however, students often read a list of 5-20 books with one evaluation of all of them occurring at the end of the semester. How would college students review all of these books? Would it be necessary for them to reread all of them?

As rereading an entire syllabus is impossible and ridiculous, an excellent review process must be used instead. "Bookmarking" and "marking up the text" are two such review techniques.

Bookmarking involves placing many paper markers in the book as it is read. Sticky notes work well, as they do not fall out. As the students read, they mark the place of anything that looks important. If they wish, students may add written notations such as "new character" or "symbol of evil" to the bookmarks. These written notes may be added later, if students do not wish to stop reading. After they finish reading the book, the students should go back through the book, discarding those bookmarks that no longer seem important. Although the book still appears to be "bristling" with papers, what is left are carefully selected pages that may be reviewed in a short time.

Marking up the text is useful as a reading aid as well as an aid to review. As the students read, they should carefully look for important elements involving plot, character, symbol, language, theme, and so on to underline or circle, writing an appropriate note in the margin. Watching for these elements as one reads is a way of staying alert and thinking about what is being read. Students should not mark up the page too much; being selective is a thinking process that helps to "teach" the novel. A heavily marked book is difficult to review, because it is messy and confusing to the eye.

Some students like to use a highlighting marker while reading. This is not a good way to mark up the text, because it is too easy to switch to autopilot, automatically highlighting line after line until the entire page is a new color. These readers aren't paying very good attention to selecting the most important elements, and there is nothing specific to review later.

When bookmarking and marking up the text, students should be aware of **course themes and connections**. What does the teacher stress in class? What questions appear on tests and writing assignments? If students understand course concepts, they will read with intelligence and discrimination, and they will find what they are looking for as they read.

Note: Freshman should follow the bookmarking guides given to them for the specific novel.

In September, students will be held accountable for having "bookmarked" or "marked up" their English department required book. "Bookmarked" or "marked up" text will be part of the testing process for the required book in English.

GENRE	
DI	Diary
FA	Fantasy
HR	Horror
MY	Mystery
N	Novel
NF	Non-Fiction
P	Play
PT	Poetry
SF	Science Fiction
SP	Sports
SS	Short story collection

READING LEVEL	
E	Easy
M	Medium
D	Difficult

CHOOSE ONE BOOK FROM THIS LIST:

A Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole

N D #246

An obese hypochondriac who has left new Orleans only once in his life, is forced, in middle age by the mother he still lives with, to finally get a job. Astonished that he should have to risk his “failing health” and “lowering himself” by entering the working world, he unwillingly takes a job at Levy Pantz. This novel is aimed at a mature reader with a sense of humor.

Adventure of English, The: The Biography of a Language by Melvyn Bragg

NF M #051

This is the remarkable story of the English Language; from it’s beginnings as a minor guttural Germanic dialect to its position today as a truly established global language. *The Adventure of English* is not only an enthralling story of power, religion, and trade, but also the story of people, and how their lives continue to change the extraordinary language that is English.

A Hope In the Unseen by Ron Suskind

NF D #955

This is the true story of Cederic Jennings, and inner city student who graduated with honors from one of the poorest high schools in the country. Cederic matriculated to Brown University, where his adjustment to college life was filled with challenges.

All That Remains by Patricia Cornwell

MY M #811

A serial killer is loose in Richmond, specializing in attractive young couples whose bodies are invariably found in the woods months later, minus their shoes and socks. Dr. Kay Scarpetta races against time and draws on her own personal resources to track down a murderer skilled at eliminating every clue.

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah

NF M #536

This is Beah's absorbing account of a young man who, as a boy of 12, gets swept up in Sierra Leone's civil war that goes beyond even the best journalistic efforts in revealing the life and mind of a child abducted into the horrors of warfare. Beah's harrowing journey transforms him overnight from a child enthralled by American hip-hop music and dance to an internal refugee bereft of family, wandering from village to village in a country grown deeply divided by the indiscriminate atrocities of unruly, sociopathic rebel and army forces.

Amateurs, The: The Story of 4 Young Men and Their Quest for an Olympic Gold Medal SP/NF M #401

This book uncovers the dramatic and special world of amateur rowing. While other athletes are earning fortunes in salaries and endorsements, the oarsmen only gain fame with each other and strive for success without any hope of financial reward. The book explores the driving factors involved in the ability to endure physical pain like no other sport and the sacrifices they made along their journey.

Angels and Demons by Dan Brown MY M #216

World-renowned Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon is summoned to a Swiss research facility to analyze a cryptic symbol seared into the chest of a murdered physicist. What he discovers is unimaginable: a deadly vendetta against the Catholic Church by a centuries-old underground organization -- the Illuminati. Desperate to save the Vatican from a powerful time bomb, Langdon joins forces in Rome with the beautiful and mysterious scientist Vittoria Vetra. Together they embark on a frantic hunt through sealed crypts, dangerous catacombs, deserted cathedrals, and the most secretive vault on earth . . . the long-forgotten Illuminati lair.

An Inconvenient Truth by Al Gore NF D #666

An Inconvenient Truth—Gore's groundbreaking, battle cry of a follow-up to the bestselling *Earth in the Balance*—is being published to tie in with a documentary film of the same name. Both the book and film were inspired by a series of multimedia presentations on global warming that Gore created and delivers to groups around the world. With this book, Gore, who is one of our environmental heroes—and a leading expert—brings together leading-edge research from top scientists around the world; photographs, charts, and other illustrations; and personal anecdotes and observations to document the fast pace and wide scope of global warming. He presents, with alarming clarity and conclusiveness—and humor, too—that the fact of global warming is not in question and that its consequences for the world we live in will be disastrous if left unchecked. This riveting new book—written in an accessible, entertaining style—will open the eyes of even the most skeptical.

Audacity of Hope, The: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream by Barack Obama NF M #297

With his second book *The Audacity of Hope*, Obama engages themes raised in his keynote speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention, shares personal views on faith and values and offers a vision of the future that involves repairing a "political process that is broken" and restoring a government that has fallen out of touch with the people.

A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail by Bill Bryson NF E #857

The Appalachian Trail stretches from Georgia to Maine and covers some of the most breathtaking terrain in America—majestic mountains, silent forests, sparkling lakes. If you're going to take a hike, it's probably the place to go and Bill Bryson is surely the most entertaining guide you'll find. He introduces us to the history and ecology of the trail and to some of the other hardy (or just foolhardy) folks he meets along the way—and a couple of bears. Already a classic, *A Walk in the Woods* will make you long for the great outdoors.

Band of Brothers by Stephen Ambrose NF D #821

This gripping novel tells the story of Easy Company, a regiment of the U.S. Army during World War II. The book is based on interviews of the men who lived through the invasion of D-Day, The Battle of the Bulge, and more.

Bell Jar, The by Sylvia Plath

N M #724

The *Bell Jar* tells the story of a gifted young woman's mental breakdown beginning during a summer internship as a junior editor at a magazine in New York City in the early 1950s. The real Plath committed suicide in 1963 and left behind this scathingly sad, honest and perfectly-written book, which remains one of the best-told tales of a woman's descent into insanity.

Black and White by Paul Volponi

N E #755

Marcus and Eddie are best friends. They're also stars on the basketball court, where they're known as Black and White. Race has never been an issue: Marcus is black, Eddie is white, but it doesn't matter, until they start to pull stickups for extra pocket cash and the gun they're using is finally fired for real. Now Marcus is going to jail and Eddie is going to college, even though Eddie really fired the gun. Told in their two voices, *Black and White* is the gripping story of two good boys who make a bad mistake.

Black Mass by Dick Lehr and Gerard O'Neill

N M #625

In the spring of 1988, Boston Globe reporters Dick Lehr and Gerard O'Neill set out to write the story of two infamous brothers from the insular Irish enclave of South Boston: Jim "Whitey" Bulger and his younger brother Billy. Whitey was the city's most powerful gangster and a living legend – tough, cunning, without conscience, and above all, smart. Billy, president of the state Senate, was a political heavyweight in Massachusetts. These facts alone make for an intriguing story, but as Lehr and O'Neill found out, this was only the beginning.

Breakfast of Champions by Kurt Vonnegut

Satire M/D #544

You'll know that anything goes once you pick up a work by the zany and terrific Kurt Vonnegut. The man knows how to dish up satire like none. He'll spew out his complaints about the government, the world, people, etc., and instead of making it sound like a bunch of inane ranting he uses all of that to create a crazy world filled with outrageous characters and situations. *Breakfast of Champions* is an off-the-wall novel that is about 300 pages of pure hilarity and comedic chaos. Some of the most outrageous characters lie within this masterpiece.

Bringing Down the House by Ben Mezrich

NF E #833

When a group of very bright MIT students come together and learn how to count cards, they have dreams of breaking Las Vegas and every casino in the country. Find out how they almost achieved their dream of making millions of dollars off of Black Jack and find out how little the casinos can do to stop them.

Chosen, The by Chaim Potok

N M #222

In 1940s Brooklyn, New York, an accident throws Reuven Malther and Danny Saunders together. Despite their differences (Reuven is a Modern Orthodox Jew with an intellectual, Zionist father; Danny is the brilliant son and rightful heir to a Hasidic rebbe), the young men form a deep, if unlikely, friendship. Together they negotiate adolescence, family conflicts, and the crisis of faith engendered when Holocaust stories begin to emerge in the U.S., loss, love, and the journey to adulthood. The intellectual and spiritual clashes between fathers, between each son and his own father, and between the two young men, provide a unique backdrop for this exploration of fathers, sons, faith, loyalty, and, ultimately, the power of love.

Crocodile on the Sandbank by Elizabeth Peters

MY M #333

Amelia receives a rather large inheritance and decides to use it for travel. On her way through Rome to Egypt, she meets Evelyn Barton-Forbes, a young woman abandoned by her lover and left with no means of support. Amelia promptly takes Evelyn under her wing, insisting that the young lady accompany her to Egypt, where Amelia plans to indulge her passion for Egyptology. When Evelyn becomes the target of an aborted kidnapping and the focus of a series of suspicious accidents and mysterious visitations, Amelia becomes convinced of a plot to harm her young friend. Like any self-respecting sleuth, Amelia sets out to discover who is behind it all.

Deaf Like Me by Tom and James Spradley

NF E #978

This is a story of two young parents struggling to raise their deaf daughter, Lynn, in a hearing world. Written by Thomas Spradley, Lynn's father, the book begins before Lynn was born with her mother's fear of rubella. The book takes you through the fear and waiting for the pregnancy and the eventual realization of Lynn's deafness. The author conveys honest, true-to-life emotion in this gripping tale of a parent's struggle to balance advice and gut feelings.

Devil in the White City, The by Erik Larson

NF M #638

Not long after Jack the Ripper haunted the ill-lit streets of 1888 London, H.H. Holmes (born Herman Webster Mudgett) dispatched somewhere between 27 and 200 people, mostly single young women, in the churning new metropolis of Chicago; many of the murders occurred during (and exploited) the city's finest moment, the World's Fair of 1893. Larson's breathtaking new history is a novelistic yet wholly factual account of the fire and the mass murdered who lurked within it.

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

N D #231

This magnificent novel - considered by many to be Steinbeck's best - is the story of the Trasks and the Hamiltons, two families drawn by the current that brought settlers to the rich farmlands of California. As he traces the families through three generations, Steinbeck retells the biblical story of Cain and Abel while his characters re-enact the ancient drama of exile to the east of an always elusive Eden.

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer

N D #677

Nine-year-old Oskar Schell has embarked on an urgent, secret mission that will take him through the five boroughs of New York. His goal is to find the lock that matches a mysterious key that belonged to his father, who died in the World Trade Center on 9/11. This will bring Oskar into contact with survivors of all sorts on an exhilarating, affecting, hilarious, and ultimately healing journey.

Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser

NF D #777

Journalist Schlosser argues that the fast food industry has triggered a growth of malls in America's landscape, widened the gap between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and propelled American cultural imperialism abroad. He discusses facts about food production and preparation, the ingredients and taste enhancers in the food, the fast food chains' efforts to reel in the young before they even know their own names.

For One More Day by Mitch Albom

N M #133

Grief-stricken Charles "Chick" Benetto goes into an alcoholic tailspin when his mother dies. Chick quickly narrates her funeral; his drink-fueled loss of savings, job ("sales") and family; and his descent into loneliness and isolation. After a suicide attempt, Chick encounters Pauline's ghost. Together, the two revisit Pauline's travails raising her children alone after his father abandons them. Pauline cringes at the heartache Chick inflicted as a demanding child, obnoxious teen and brusque, oblivious adult chasing a baseball career. Through their story, Albom foregrounds family sanctity, maternal self-sacrifice and the destructive power of personal ambition and male self-involvement.

Get in the Game by Cal Ripken Jr.

NF M #366

Athletic superstar Ripken (Play Baseball the Ripken Way) turns the often pro-forma business/personal management guidebook into a well-written combination autobiography and inspirational self-help book. Unlike Ripken's other autobiographical books on baseball, this one begins with a contemplation of Gehrig's famed work ethic (maintained even after being diagnosed with ALS) and analyzing "the many parallels in our careers and how similarly he and I approached our jobs." Ripken breaks down Gehrig-style perseverance—"steadfastness, hanging in there in the face of difficulty, overcoming obstacles"—into eight elements, each with its own chapter.

Glass Castle, The by Jeannette Walls

NF M #007

A remarkable memoir of resilience and redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and uniquely vibrant. Walls chronicles her upbringing at the hands of eccentric, nomadic parents, sharing incredible, painful experiences in non-nonsense prose.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Book 7 by J.K. Rowling

FA M #614

The last book in the Harry Potters series. Rumor has it that the last word of this last book is "scar"! Find out what happens to Harry, Hermione, Ron and the rest of Hogwarts in the end to this exciting series.

History of Love, The by Nicole Krauss

N M #555

An imaginative, funny, and poignant book about an old man in New York City who discovers that a story that he wrote sixty years ago as a boy in Poland about the love of his life has survived and has shaped the lives of others.

Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy, The by Douglas Adams

SF M #735

Join Douglas Adam's hapless hero, Arthur Dent, as he travels the galaxy with his intrepid pal Ford Perfect, getting into horrible messes and generally wreaking hilarious havoc. Dent is grabbed from Earth moments before a cosmic construction team obliterates the planet to build a freeway. You'll never read a funnier science fiction; Adams is the master of intelligent satire, barbed wit and comedic dialogue.

Hottest State, The: A Novel by Ethan Hawke

N M #126

Boy-meets-girl, girls-dumps-boy saga set in a grungy New York of aspiring actors, writers, and singers. William, a college drop dropout and budding actor, falls fast and hard for Sarah Wingfield, who fronts a band, teaches pre-school and is a bit "funny looking," comes as a revelation to him, given his history of using his good looks to get whatever he wants. Their doomed romance is intercut with William's memories of his parents' breakup, of talks with his best friend and of his overheated teen relationship with Samantha, who still flits in and out of his life.

In These Girls, Hope is a Muscle by Madeline Blais

NF E #312

They were a talented team with a near-perfect record but a reputation for choking in the crunch of the state playoffs. After five straight years of disappointments, the Amherst Lady Hurricanes found they just might have what it takes to go all the way. This is a fierce, funny, and intimate look into their minds and hearts during one very special basketball season.

Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer

NF M #444

Into Thin Air is a riveting first-hand account of a catastrophic expedition up Mount Everest. In March 1996, *Outside* magazine sent veteran journalist & seasoned climber Jon Krakauer on an expedition led by celebrated Everest guide Rob Hall. Despite the expertise of Hall & the other leaders, by the end of summit day eight people were dead. Written within months of the events it chronicles, *Into Thin Air* clearly evokes the majestic Everest landscape. As the journey up the mountain progresses, Krakauer puts it in context by recalling the triumphs & perils of other Everest trips throughout history.

Light On Snow by Laura Esquivel

N M #718

An after-school stroll leads to a life-altering even for widower Robert Dillon and his 12 year old daughter, Nicky, in this novel by acclaimed author Shreve. In the woods surrounding their secluded home, Robert and Nicky make a startling discovery - a baby abandoned and left to die in the snow. The infant survives, but the incident leaves its mark. Still recovering from the painful loss of her mother and infant sister two years earlier, and readjusting to the shock of a sudden move from suburban NY to rural NH, Nicky struggles to reconcile her innocent notions of adult integrity with the bleak reality of their discovery.

Lord of the Rings, The: The Return of the King by J.R.R. Tolkien

SF D #365

"Return of the King" is the worthy climax to J.R.R. Tolkien's epic saga. The story opens where "Two Towers" left off. Gandalf has ridden to the city of Gondor with Pippin (partly to keep him out of trouble), where the forces of Mordor are attacking. There is upheaval in the city itself, as the steward of Gondor is going nuts. Merry pledges his service to King Theoden of Rohan, not knowing what is ahead for the king and his relatives. Aragorn is seeking out allies to fight Sauron on a military scale, even if they can't defeat him unless the Ring is destroyed. His search will take him to tribes of forest-dwellers, to Gondor -- even to summon an army of the dead.

Marley and Me by John Grogan

NF M #111

Dog lovers will delight in the antics of Marley, a yellow lab, as he happily terrorizes the Grogan household. The reader gets to delight in Marley's mischief without having to deal with the mess or the embarrassment of such a dog. You can feel the affection in Grogan's writing, even as he related his frustrating, humbling, and humiliating experiences with such a wonderful menace.

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult

N M #914

Is it morally correct to do all that is possible to save a child's life regardless of the consequence for others? It is a moving and thought-provoking novel that describes what a family faces when a child is terminally ill, and what can happen when a child is asked to give up parts of herself to save her sick sister.

Nature via Nurture by Matt Ridley

NF D #071

In the follow-up to his bestseller, *Genome*, Matt Ridley takes on a centuries-old question: is it nature or nurture that makes us who we are? Ridley asserts that the question itself is a "false dichotomy." Using copious examples from human and animal behavior, he presents the notion that our environment affects the way our genes express themselves.

Nickel and Dimed by Barbara Ehrenreich

NF D #866

Essayist and cultural critic Barbara Ehrenreich has always specialized in turning received wisdom on its head with intelligence, clarity, and verve. With some 12 million women being pushed into the labor market by welfare reform, she decided to do some good old-fashioned journalism and find out just how they were going to survive on the wages of the unskilled--at \$6 to \$7 an hour, only half of what is considered a living wage. So she did what millions of Americans do, she looked for a job and a place to live, worked that job, and tried to make ends meet.

Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult

N M #769

Picoult tackles the troubling topic of a school shooting. Considering the tragedy from several different perspectives, including that of the shooter, Picoult crafts a suspenseful and thrilling novel investigating the limits of life and exactly what can happen in merely nineteen minutes.

Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

N M #219

Callum is a nought - a second-class citizen - in a world run by the ruling Crosses. Sephy is a Cross, daughter of one of the most powerful men in the country. In their world, noughts and crosses simply don't mix. As hostility turns to violence, can Callum & Sephy possibly find a way to be together?

Odd Girl Out by Rachel Simmons

NF M #478

Although more than 16 years have passed, Rhodes Scholar Simmons hasn't forgotten how she felt when Abby told the other girls in third grade not to play with her, nor has she stopped thinking about her own role in giving Noa the silent treatment. Simmons examines how such "alternative aggression" where girls use their relationship with the victim as a weapon flourishes and its harmful effects. Through interviews with more than 300 girls in 10 schools (in two urban areas and a small town), as well as 50 women who experienced alternative aggression when they were young, Simmons offers a detailed portrait of girls' bullying.

Omnivore's Dilemma, The: A Natural History of Four Meals by Michael Pollan

NF M #384

What should you eat for dinner? To find out, Pollan follows each of the food chains that sustain us- industrial, organic, or alternative food from the source to the final meal. This journey takes us from cornfields to fast food restaurants, from feedlots to food science labs. Discover what's really in the food you eat. You'll never think about food the same way again.

President's Daughter, The by Jack Higgins

NF M #012

International espionage at its best. Two of Higgins's favorite heroes, Sean Dillion and Liam Devlin, unite with FBI agent Blake Johnson, a decorated Marine, to solve this suspenseful thriller. When the President finds out that he had a daughter while stationed in Vietnam, this knowledge triggers a chain of events that could place the world as we know it in danger. A devious group of people discovers his secret and, acting with terrible speed, they seize the woman. If the President does not comply with their demands, they will kill her.

Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier

N M #436

This riveting tale of fear, suspicion, and love opens as the unnamed narrator reminisces about her former home, the grand English estate, Manderley. She had been young and shy, a lady's companion, when she met the wealthy recent widow, Maxim de Winter, fell in love with him, and married him in a matter of weeks. They returned to his home, where she was immediately overwhelmed with the responsibilities of running the house and dealing with her forbidding housekeeper as well as the memory of Maxim's first wife, Rebecca. She had been beautiful, sophisticated, and supremely confident, and the narrator felt lost and helpless in comparison. Her new husband was strangely distant to her, until a horrible secret was revealed that would change their lives and the very existence of Manderley.

Red Badge of Courage, The by Stephen Crane

N M #378

The Red Badge of Courage is considered by many literary critics to be one of the greatest of all American novels. This book about the Civil War recounts one Union soldier's struggle with his inner demons as he prepares for, and fights his first battle. The story reveals the full horror and the complexity of war and unpredictability of human behavior in the crucible of battle. Henry Fleming is a young northerner who, despite his mother's objections, enlists in the Union army with great patriotic fervor. As he awaits his first battle, the youth ponders how he will react: will he stand and fight, or will he flee?

Road, The by Cormac McCarthy

N M #098

The Road is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, "each the other world's entire," are sustained by love. Awesome in the totality of its vision, *The Road* is an unflinching meditation of the worst and the best that we are capable of: ultimate destructiveness, desperate tenacity, and the tenderness that keeps two people alive in the face of total devastation. *An Oprah Book Club selection*

Sea Glass by Anita Shreve **N M #488**

A pair of young newlyweds set out to build a life together on a derelict and dilapidated beach house on the Atlantic coast. They soon discover how threatening the world outside can be, even just outside their own front door.

Sixth Target, The by James Patterson **MY M #510**

When a horrifying attack leaves one of the four members of the Women's Murder Club struggling for her life, the others fight to keep a madman behind bars before anyone else is hurt. And Lindsay Boxer and her new partner in the San Francisco police department run flat-out to stop a series of kidnappings that has electrified the city: children are being plucked off the streets together with their nannies- but the kidnappers aren't demanding ransom. Amid uncertainty and rising panic, Lindsay juggles the possibility of a new love with an unsolvable investigation, and the knowledge that one member of the club could be on the brink of death.

Smashed by Koren Zailckas **NF M #962**

A raw powerful memoir about a young woman's experience and abuse of alcohol. A well written, but upsetting chronicle of addiction.

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See **N M #568**

In 19th century China, two girls are assigned to be special friends to promote their ability to be married into good families. The stories of their lives and how they intertwine with ancient Chinese culture, including foot binding, makes an interesting read.

Street Lawyer, The by John Grisham **N M #427**

A grizzled and fragrant homeless man wanders into a Washington D.C. law firm, takes nine attorneys hostage at gunpoint. The 800-lawyer firm of Drake & Sweeney survives, but their uninvited guest does not. Michael Brock, one of the firm's rising stars, comes away from this brush with death with a troubled conscience and a mental legal pad filled with unanswered questions. Who was this man and what did he really want?

Summer of '49, The by David Halbertstam **NF M #687**

In the year immediately following World War II, professional baseball mesmerized the American people as it never had before and never would again. This is a chronicle of baseball's most magnificent season in which the New York Yankees battle the Boston Red Sox down to a one-game season.

Tender Bar, The by J.R. Moehringer **NF M #926**

A memoir about the coming of age in, of all unlikely places, a great American bar. It has a newspaperman's eye for detail and a novelist's gift for narrative. Growing up fatherless in pub-heavy Manhasset, New York, J.R. lives in a ramshackle house crammed with cousins and ruled by an eccentric, unkind grandfather. Desperate for a paternal figure, he turns first to his father, a DJ whom he can only access via the radio. When The Voice suddenly disappears from the airwaves, Moehringer turns to his Uncle Charlie, and subsequently, Uncle Charlie's place of employment--a bar called Dickens that soon takes center stage in J.R.'s life. There is vulgar language, which is appropriate to the setting.

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson **NF M #186**

Dangerously ill when he finished his climb of K2 in 1993, Mortenson was sheltered for seven weeks by the small Pakistani village of Korphe; in return, he promised to build the impoverished town's first school, a project that grew into the Central Asia Institute, which has since constructed more than 50 schools across rural Pakistan and Afghanistan. As the book moves into the post-9/11 world, the novel argues that the U.S. must fight Islamic extremism in the region through collaborative efforts to alleviate poverty and improve access to education, especially for girls. Captivating and suspenseful, with engrossing accounts of both hostilities and unlikely friendships.

Tis: A Memoir by Frank McCourt

NF M #999

The Sequel to the Pulitzer Prize winning, *Angela's Ashes*, McCourt's glowing memoir chronicles his story from impoverished immigrant to brilliant raconteur and schoolteacher – a tale of survival as vivid, harrowing, and often hilarious as its bestselling predecessor.

Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion by Loree Griffin Burns **NF E #524**

Have you ever heard of the “eastern garbage patch”? Learn about this 3,000,000 ton floating garbage patch in the ocean and other disturbing facts about how garbage travels through the sea.

Under the Banner of Heaven by Jon Krakauer

NF E #123

This book, from the author of *Into Thin Air* and *Into the Wild*, explores the details of a murder committed by two religious fundamentalists who believed that God had commanded them to kill a woman and her baby. This is an interesting look at a violent crime as well as an insightful study of Mormon fundamentalists and the Mormon religion.

Without a Map by Meredith Hall

NF M #888

Meredy, becomes pregnant at 16. Expelled from school, she is shunned by her small New Hampshire community and turned away by her mother. Sent to live with her father and his chilly new wife, she hides upstairs while they have dinner parties, waiting out her pregnancy like a prison term. This rousing memoir tells the story of how Meredy was forced to give her baby up for adoption and pushed into a vagabond existence. Divorced and raising two young children, she gets a phone call: her son is found.

Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance by Robert Persig

N M #002

The story shows us how modern technology influence the lives of people in ordinary circumstances. It is told by a young man who looks at life from a classical view and Zen, giving us insight into where ideas arise and how we choose to apply them or disregard them.